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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents,

Washington, D.C. 20231

May 399

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application

Applicant: Sekutowski et al.

Art Unit: 1

1721

Serial No.:

08/972,648

Examiner:

Richard D. Lovering

Filed:

November 18, 1997

Title:

TREATED HORTICULTURAL SUBSTRATES

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action dated February 3, 1999. Kindly enter the following amendments.

<u>AMENDMENTS</u>

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims in the below indicated manner.

1. (Twice amended) A coated substrate comprising a horticultural substrate selected from the group consisting of fruits, vegetables, trees, flowers, grasses,